

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 In an image data retrieval apparatus when images stored in an
image database are listed and displayed in a listing window or an image
search is conducted and as a result an image of interest is displayed in a
search result window the user double-clicks an image including a desired
figure therein. In response the double-clicked image is enlarged and thus
displayed. When the user places a mouse pointer at the position of the
face of the figure in the image and then drags the mouse pointer a pixel
therearound is analyzed and a face image is cut out. The face image cut
10 out is dragged to the position of a key face entry frame and dropped therein,
and thus serves as a retrieval key. Thus a retrieval key image can readily
be designated. Consequently, appropriately designating an image serving
as a retrieval key can alleviate the user's data entry operation and thus
provide an image data retrieval apparatus improved in usability.